



## Board of Education

Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting  
The Board of Education

A Regular School Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held December 17, 2018, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Service Center, Bldg B.

Ms. Susan McFerran, president, called the meeting to order. Other board members present were Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Mr. Wade Gilkey, Mr. Greg Magness, Mr. Bill Hanesworth and Ms. Jeannie Cole. Ms. Talicia Richardson was absent. Dr. Doug Brubaker, Superintendent, Dr. Terry Morawski, Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Martin Mahan, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Campus Support, Dr. Barry Owen, Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Executive Director of Communication and Community Partnerships, Mr. Darian Layes, Executive Director of Student Services and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mr. Charles Warren gave the Invocation.

Ms. McFerran read the mission statement.

The consent agenda included the minutes of the November 26 Regular School Board Meeting, November Financial Report, December Student Services Report, and adopting second reading of financial policy changes. Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, to approve the consent agenda items as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Brubaker yielded to Mr. Mahan to present the professional staff recommendations. Mr. Mahan noted that there were no leaves of absence.

### **Professional Staff Recommendations**

#### **Resignation**

Faught-Stone, Cynthia  
Floyd, Tracy  
Kern, Kelsey  
Cogswell, Breck  
Gerhardson, Ashley

### **Retirement**

No retirements

Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Greg Magness, to accept the resignations as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

### **Recommendations for Employment**

Palmer, Precious  
Kupers, Sherry  
Haley, Emily  
Taylor, Kylie  
Harper, Audra

Ms. Jeannie Cole made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade Gilkey, to approve the recommendations for employment as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

### **Recognitions**

Steven Hughes, Director of the Southside High School Orchestra was recognized for being named one of 50 Directors Who Make a Difference by the School Band and Orchestra Magazine. Directors are nominated and one is selected from each state. He joined Fort Smith Public Schools in 2007, recently making a decade of service in Fort Smith. He has served as Orchestra Director at both Northside and Southside High Schools and has assisted with instruction at all four FSPS junior high schools.

Star Awards: Brooklyn Baugh, kindergartener at Euper Lane Elementary, Caden Davis, third - grader at Cook Elementary, Marely Diaz Fernandez, fourth-grader at Sutton Elementary, Anna Douangpanya, sixth-grader at Spradling Elementary, Byron Estrada, sixth-grader at Spradling Elementary. Ahmed Ghayas, sixth-grader at Woods Elementary School, Angela Monta, fourth-grader at Morrison Elementary School, Se'Dreah Morris, third-grader at Carnall Elementary School, and Teri'Yah Parker, kindergartener at Bonneville Elementary.

### **Vision 2023 Update**

Dr. Brubaker stated that along with the Vision 2023 Strategic Planning team meeting in October to review progress, December marks the one-year anniversary of the adoption of the Vision 2023 Strategic Plan. Ms. Marshall shared a video progress report compiled by the Communications Department.

### **Review Current Bids and Proposals**

Mr. Warren presented information for two current bids and proposals for arbitrage accounting firm and technology operations review. He reported that this is an information item and no recommendation is required.

### **CONSIDER ACCEPTING AUDIT REPORT**

Mr. Warren reported that In April, the Board approved the proposal from Przybysz & Associates, CPAs to prepare the audit report for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, June 30, 2019 and June 30, 2020. This is the first audit report released under that agreement. He reported that the Board also approved the move from a "GAAP/GASB audit" to a "regulatory audit". He added that the "regulatory audit" financial report more closely mirrors the internal financial statements prepared by the District. Mr. Lux of Przybysz & Associates presented the findings of the audit report noting that the district received an unmodified opinion, the highest type of opinion that is given to an audit identity.

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to accept the audit report for the year ending June 30, 2018 as prepared by Przybysz & Associates, CPAs.

### **CONSIDER ADOPTING THE 2019-2020 CALENDAR**

Dr. Morawski presented the calendar for the 2019-2020 school year. The major changes reflected on this year's calendar include: a full week holiday for Thanksgiving and the implementation of Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Days for inclement weather. The District's waiver for the start date of school filed in 2017 is in the second year of a five-year approval. Other features of the calendar include:

- A start date of Tuesday, August 13 and a final student day of Thursday, May 28.
- 178 student days and two parent-teacher conference days.
- 193 teacher contract days including: four professional development days before the start of school, four professional development days embedded in the school year, and two professional development days independently scheduled by staff.
- A one day fall break on October 21.
- A full week holiday for Thanksgiving.
- A two-week Winter Break.
- Statewide Spring Break March 23-27, 2020.
- Holidays on Labor Day, Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, Good Friday, and Memorial Day.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to adopt the 2019-2020 Calendar as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

### **BOARD MEMBERS FORUM**

Ms. Keaton-Martin expressed disappointment in the audience's behavior at the November board meeting.

**CITIZENS PARTICIPATION**

Ms. Wendy Peer spoke on the importance of FSEA members being involved in the PPC process and willingness to do so.

**ADJOURN**

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

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Susan McFerran, President

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Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Secretary